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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,486	03/01/2004	Shigehiko Suzuki	1614.1387	9025
21171	7590	02/21/2007	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			WU, YICUN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2165	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE		
3 MONTHS	02/21/2007	PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/788,486	SUZUKI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Yicun Wu	2165	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2006.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-33 and 35-40 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

Yrs
Patent Examiner
Technology center
2102

III. DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-33 and 35-40 are presented for examination.

Response to Applicant's Remarks

Applicant argues:

"This cited prior art is silent as to "contribution" and "when a contribution is made, a contributor can determine a scope of the contributed contents which is allowed to be viewed by a viewer, and the view allowing scope specifying information is stored."

Examiner disagree.

With respect to the argument, Examiner asserts that Applicant did not claim "a contributor can determine a scope of the contributed contents which is allowed to be viewed by a viewer, and the view allowing scope specifying information is stored" in Applicant's claims, therefore, examiner believes that BEA does teach Applicant's invention of "a contribution receiving part receiving a contribution from a user and storing the contribution in said reference information storage part" (i.e., a user can configure information in user profile, which allows the personalized server to retrieve personalized contents from content provider.) (pages 1-24).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3-9, 11-17, 19-33 and 35-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by BEA, Product Family Overview, July 02, 2001, pages 124 and hereinafter referred to as BEA.

As to claims 1, 9, 17, 25 and 33, BEA teaches an information reference apparatus comprising: a reference information storage part storing predetermined reference information (i.e., a user profile on a Personalization server) (page 14); a reference range defining information storage part storing predetermined reference range defining information (i.e., in a property set for an individual user or a user group, where properties can be set to define a valid range e.g., to retrieve content based on the valid range from a content provider e.g., a database) (page 15; page 17); and a reference range defining part referring to the reference range defining information stored for a user by said reference range defining information storage part and defining a range of the reference information stored by said reference information storage part, in which range the reference information is available for the user to refer to (i.e., the reference ranges are defined and stored at the WebLogic Personalization Server) (pages 1-24);

a contribution receiving part receiving a contribution from a user and storing the contribution in said reference information storage part (i.e., a user can configure information in user profile, which allows the personalized server to retrieve personalized contents from content provider.) (pages 1-24).

As to claims 3, 11,19, 27 and 35, BEA teaches an authenticating part allowing a user to refer to the reference information after an authentication of the user is normally finished (i.e., the information that distinguishes one user/person from another user/person in the personalized server) (pages 1-24).

As to claims 4, 12, 20, 28 and 36, BEA teaches a search range defining part responsive to a search request from a user's apparatus for referring to the reference range defining information from said reference range defining information storage part, and thereby defining a range of the reference information, in which range the reference information is available for the search (pages 1-24).

As to claims 5,13,21,29 and 37, BEA teaches an URL management part registering an URL for each user, and being responsive to an URL reference request sent from a user's apparatus via a communication network for returning to the apparatus, information of URL previously registered for the relevant user (pages 1-24).

As to claims 6,14,22,30 and 38, BEA teaches that each user is given an attribute, and a user who makes a contribution is allowed to define a range of users who are allowed to refer to information included in the contribution, by designating the attribute thus given to the users (pages 1-24).

As to claims 7,15,23,31 and 39, BEA teaches a referred information managing part storing information for determining whether or not an item of the reference information has been already referred to by a specific user, and enabling said specific user to determine that the item of reference information has been already referred to by himself or herself with a use of the thus-stored information, upon receiving a reference request from the specific user (pages 1-24).

As to claims 8,16,24,32 and 40, BEA teaches that the reference range defining information comprises information designating, for each item of the reference information, a range of users who are allowed to refer thereto, a determination as to whether or not each item of the reference information is available for a particular user being made by determining whether or not an attribute set for the particular user is included in said range of users designated for said item of the reference information (pages 1-24).

Conclusion

3. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**, Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory- period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply-expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Points of contact

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yicun Wu whose telephone number is 571-272-4087. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday -Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on 571-272-4146. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

Yicun Wu
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2100



February 16, 2007